(e) whether it is a fact that the powers of the co-operative unions and of the honorary assistant registrar were usurped by these officials;

(f) whether complaints of actual interference by the officials of the department with the work of non-officials have been received;

(g) whether it is a fact that on many occasions respectable gentlemen connected with the management of co-operative societies working in the town of Ootacamund complained to the Registrar personally about the unwarranted interference of these officials; and

(h) what steps Government have taken to see that non-official help in the working of these societies is not repelled?

A.—(a) There are 78 societies in the Nilgiris plateau. Of these, 68 are exclusively for the hill tribes.

(b) The outstandings are considerable. The progress of the co-operative movement amongst hill tribes is necessarily slow, but the movement has not failed to confer benefits.

(c) The Government have no reason to think so.

(d) Non-official agencies have not yet come forward to undertake the work of organizing new societies.

(e), (f) & (g) No.

(h) Does not arise.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Is it a fact that Rao Sahib Belli Gowder was Honorary Assistant Registrar for some time and when he was ill, advantage was taken by the department to entrust two unions in the Nilgiris, one to the village officer and the other to the village schoolmaster, as if public spirited men are not available there?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai:—"Our information is that enough public spirited men are not available."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Since Mr. Belli Gowder resigned, Mr. Ari Gowder took up the place; but he too had to sever his connexion on account of differences with the departmental staff."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai:—"No; on account of his having taken up a contract."

The Raja of Ramnad:—"May I know by what process has the hon. the Minister discovered that there are not enough public spirited men there?"

Mr. R. Veerian:—"May I know how many co-operative societies are there for the Adi-Dravidas in the Nilgiris district?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai:—"I want notice. I have not got the figures just now."

Mr. R. Veerian:—"Does the hon. the Minister know what is going on in his own department. . . . ?"

The hon. the President:—"The hon. Member has been warned yesterday and I think he should have taken the warning seriously. Surely there are other ways of putting the question."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar:—"Is it a fact that Mr. Davis, M.L.C., was dissatisfied with the attitude of the departmental staff towards non-officials and did he complain about it to Mr. Gray?"

21st August 1925]

(c) cost of training camp,
(d) the privincial Jambori,
(e) grants to district councils, and
(f) printing, stationery, etc.?

A.—The grant of Rs. 10,000 is a *lump* grant to the Boy Scouts Association, Madras, and its object is to enable the Association to employ a capable organizing Secretary. The Association has been asked to furnish to the Government a statement of the expenditure incurred out of the grant, duly certified by qualified auditors.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Are the Government aware that the grant of Rs. 10,000 made by them is practically taken up by pay and travelling allowance with the result that there is no provision made for the several other items in their programme? That being the case, will the Government consider the question of making a supplementary grant?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" No, not at present."

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu :—" May I know whether the Government will please inquire into the financial situation of the Association?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" That is under consideration."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" Has this association asked for any additional grant?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" The association asked for a certain amount of money and Rs. 10,000 was found necessary and that sum was accordingly granted as a lump sum."

Introduction of spinning in Government schools.

* 278 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state in what Government schools and to what extent spinning has been introduced in the Madras Presidency?

A.—Spinning alone has not been introduced into any Government schools in this Presidency. As auxiliary to weaving it has been introduced in a few schools. Spinning alone has practically no educational value.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" May I know what is meant by 'auxiliary'?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" I must ask the hon. Member to refer to a standard dictionary."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Sir, this is a common answer given by the hon. Minister. I know that auxiliary means aid. I want to know what that auxiliary is?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—" Again, I must ask the hon. Member to read the whole of the answer. If he does so, it will be quite clear."

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu :—" Is it a fact that Government have not allowed spinning in the educational institutions?"